

There were brilliant electric lights at Pensacola, brightly burning lamps at Suwanee, and we watched them persistently, but nothing—or almost nothing—ever came. No day-flying moths, Geometridæ, deltoïds, or microlepidoptera were seen. Even *Litosca convalescens* which takes the place there of our *Drasteria crechta* and is generally abundant, starting up in the grass or brush, flying and lighting every instant, was almost unknown this season. I have no theory of my own to account for this state of things. But I give you one advanced by Dossy, the colored boy who sometimes acted as my charioteer. "Seems like them can'te-flies all gwine off this year to World's Fa'r."

A STRANGE FORM OF CATOCALA.

BY GEORGE A. EHRLMAN, PITTSBURG, PA.

Catocala denussa sp. nov.

Male.—Antennæ light brown; palpi black; frontal space, (between the eyes) dark brown; thorax brown and finely scattered with ashen grey hairs, tegula edged with a light fawn color; abdomen light fawn and darker toward the tip. Upper surface of primaries: ground color brownish grey almost black with a silky caste. Similar to that in *C. antinympha* Hüb., the limbal area or space is void of having any transverse wavy lines; the reniform spot is very minute almost wanting, and the subreniform spot is similar to that in *C. antinympha*, in the middle area there are also no wavy lines; basal line light grey almost white; basal space also has no markings, the transverse anterior and posterior lines are very faint. Upper surface of secondaries: similar to those of *C. habilis* Grt., but the orange colored band of the inner space wider, hence making the median black band much narrower and more angulated.

Under surface: the same as in *Catocala habilis*, except that the outer margin of the primaries has not that light shading, but is of a pure blackish brown; the orange bands are paler and broader both on the primaries and secondaries than they are in *C. habilis*, but otherwise the same.

Habitat:—♂ in my collection, Allegheny County, Penn.

This is a strange form of *Catocala*, and seems more interesting than strange, by having the resemblance of two old and well known species; it is of the size of *C. habilis* but the characteristics of the upper surface of the anterior wings are allied to *Catocala antinympha*. At first sight it looks considerable like *C. muliercula* Gn. but is entirely distinct and has no relations with that species whatever, I hesitated at first to describe *Catocala denussa* as a species, and thought it but an extreme form of *C. habilis*, as variation has no limit in the genus *Catocala*, but when studying them side by side, I cannot be convinced otherwise, than that it is a good and reliable species.